

USIB-D-40. 5/3
Final
1 August 1961

UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT: Third Annual Report of the Committee on Exploitation
of Foreign Language Publications

1. On 1 August 1961 the Intelligence Board noted the Third Annual Report of the Committee on Exploitation of Foreign Language Publications, as amended (USIB-M-166, item 8).

2. The attached first page of the Report has been annotated to indicate that final USIB action and should be substituted for the cover page of the document as previously circulated (USIB-D-40. 5/3, 28 June). Similarly the attached page 2, which incorporates USIB-agreed amendments of the Report, should replace the corresponding page in the report disseminated on 28 June.



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Executive Secretary

Attachments

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USIB-D-40.5/3
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THIRD ANNUAL REPORT
TO THE
UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD
FROM THE
COMMITTEE ON EXPLOITATION OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE PUBLICATIONS

This Committee is composed of representatives of State, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Army, Navy, Air Force, National Security Agency, the Joint Staff, Atomic Energy Commission, Federal Bureau of Investigation and Central Intelligence Agency.

Program Review

1. The Committee conducted its customary review of the programs of all government agencies engaged in the exploitation of foreign language publications. Programs of the Foreign Documents Division, CIA, of its [redacted] and of the other USIB agencies were, in the course of the review, approved or modified to meet the changing requirements of the intelligence community.

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The results of the review became apparent in a revised system of exploitation and reporting designed to meet the specific needs of community components in the most timely fashion. The new system provided for the development of special ad hoc reports on specific topics of intelligence interest in support of and in coordination with intelligence production programs of the IB components, for continuous serialized reporting of scientific, economic, political, sociological and military intelligence information to meet the established and constant need of consumers for this type of service, and for the production of biographic and industrial plant data in a format permitting ready incorporation of such data into existing registers.

The Committee's review further resulted in the adoption of measures for the prevention of duplicative exploitation activities and for the coordination of programs for the most effective exploitation of foreign language publications.

Translation

1. The Committee gave due attention to the translations sponsored and disseminated by the Office of Technical Services, Department of Commerce, the Social Science Research Council, and the National Science Foundation.

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Cooperation with these organizations provided an effective safeguard against duplication, as well as a channel for the release of translated materials to non-government researchers. Thus in the past year over 100,000 pages of translation were made available to US science and industry through the Office of Technical Services' distribution of translations of Sino-Soviet Bloc scientific and technological literature, and to the academic world through the Social Science Research Council's arrangements for universities to receive translations of Communist Chinese materials in the field of social sciences.

25X1 2. The Committee followed closely the activities of commercial translation agencies, especially in respect to the increasing number of cover-to-cover translations of Soviet scientific journals supported by grants. Full translation [] of journals relevant to particular needs of the intelligence community were also sponsored by components of the Committee.

3. Developments in machine translation, as they occurred, were reviewed and discussed in Committee sessions.

Chinese Communist Publications

Throughout 1960, and particularly following July of that year, the Committee observed with concern the declining quantity and quality of information available on Communist China as a result of Chinese Communist restrictions on the export of publications. In December 1960 the Committee reviewed a comprehensive report prepared for it on the current availability and informational value of these publications. In recognition of the increasing difficulties of overt procurement described in the report and in acknowledgement of the importance of Chinese Communist publications as a prime source of information for intelligence, the Committee thereupon approved a recommendation to the Committee on Procurement of Foreign Publications for the promotion of clandestine means for the regular procurement of Chinese Communist publications.

Recommendation No. 10 of the Joint Study Group

25X1 The Committee responded to this recommendation in coordination with [] Security Committees.

The CEFLP took the position that the great bulk of foreign language documents exploited under this Committee for information of intelligence value are currently being processed by linguists for whom only minimal security clearance is required and many of whom are foreign born. Therefore, a modification of security procedures and practices to permit the utilization of foreign born translators was not considered necessary or desirable for the purposes of this Committee.

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